

an award winning system that enables patients and their providers to receive simultaneous translation during exams through the use of wireless technology.

As an active leader in the community, Gouverneur hosted "Celebrate Better Hearing and Speech Month" in May 2002. The event raised public awareness and offered free speech and language screenings to children from a widely diverse community in their own native languages. As a result of the collaboration, many children were screened and approximately 75% were flagged for possible speech and language difficulties.

In recognition of Gouverneur Healthcare Services' outstanding contributions to the community and their commitment to the quality of life of the diverse New York City community, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Gouverneur Healthcare Services on the occasion of their Annual Chinese New Year Celebration.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT J. "BOB"
LEWIS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Robert J. "Bob" Lewis, Deputy Executive Director for Federal Relations of the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC). Bob retired January 10, 2003. Bob has had a very distinguished career providing over 32 years of leadership and direction in government and association service.

Bob has a Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School and is a member of the D.C. and Michigan Bar Associations. Bob started his career in D.C. as a Legislative Assistant for Senator Robert P. Griffin (R-MI). He then went on to serve as a Staff Assistant to President Nixon on the White House Domestic Council; General Counsel of the Federal Trade Commission; partner at Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll; Vice President for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association; Senior Vice President for Federal Relations at the Tobacco Institute and Vice President for Public Affairs at the Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Association. Bob and his wife, Margaret, have two children and two grandchildren.

During his time at NAWC, Bob was responsible for developing and implementing NAWC's Federal government relations strategy including both legislative and regulatory activities. As a senior manager, Bob also saw to the day-to-day operations of the association. Bob's dedication to these duties was a true asset to NAWC as well to those who worked directly with him. His honesty, fairness and integrity are of the highest caliber and, his concern for others is genuine. Bob completes his tenure at NAWC as the instrumental figure in carrying out the strategies that led to many important victories for the association and its members.

Since my arrival in Washington, I have had the privilege of working with Bob in developing legislation that will help local water companies continue to provide clean, affordable drinking water. His effectiveness as an advocate on

these issues is a true testament to his dedication and passion for his work. His professionalism will be missed, but his accomplishments will remain.

Again, I would like to congratulate Bob on his career accomplishments and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IT IS TIME TO KEEP OUR PROMISE
TO FILIPINO VETERANS OF
WORLD WAR II

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to ask for the support of my colleagues for H.R. 664, "The Health Care for Filipino World War II Veterans Act."

Almost 60 years ago, President Franklin D. Roosevelt drafted the soldiers of the Philippines into service in World War II, because the Philippine was a territory of the United States at that time. Fighting side-by-side with soldiers from the United States mainland, the Filipino soldiers were instrumental in the successful outcome of the war. However, shortly after the war's end in 1946, Congress passed the Rescissions Act which took away promised benefits from many of the Filipino veterans and declared that their service was deemed not to be service in the military forces of the United States.

We owe not only a debt of gratitude to these brave veterans, but we owe them recognition as veterans of the United States military. And we owe them the benefits they were promised! Now in their 70s and 80s, they are in desperate need of health care, and approximately five veterans are dying each day.

I have introduced, H.R. 664, with a number of original co-sponsors from both parties, including Congressmembers SIMMONS, EVANS, CUNNINGHAM, PELOSI, ISSA, ROHRBACHER, ABERCROMBIE, MILLENDER-MCDONALD, TIAHRT, LOFGREN, AND SCOTT. This bill would provide access to VA medical facilities for the Filipino veterans who are now living in the United States and would restore the designation of veteran to these brave men.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony Principi, testified in a June 13, 2002 hearing before the VA Health Subcommittee in support of H.R. 4904, the version of this bill in the 107th session. The House of Representatives passed these health care benefits on July 22, 2002 but they were unable to get passed by the Senate before adjournment of last year's session. Senator INOUE has reintroduced a similar bill in the 108th session in the Senate (S. 68).

There is overwhelming support for H.R. 664. We must quickly pass this bill to begin the process of restoring benefits that are deserved by the Filipino World War II veterans.

IN MEMORY OF THE HON. FRED V.
SKOK

HON. STEVEN C. LaTOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. LaTOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I recently lost a dear friend and revered colleague, Lake

County Probate Judge Fred V. Skok, who died January 10 after a brief illness.

Judge Skok left behind a beloved wife of 39 years, Linda; daughters Heidi Skok Thorp of Glenmont, NY, and Gretchen Skok DiSanto of Concord Township; sons-in-law James Thorp and Dino DiSanto, and two grandsons, Harry Thorp and Hugh Thorp. A daughter, Christine Marie Skok, and his parents, Victor and Mary (Shume) Skok, are deceased.

Judge Skok was a legal legend in Lake County. He was elected County Prosecutor in 1960 and Probate Court Judge in 1972. He was set to retire this year after serving 30 years on the bench. He was a 1952 graduate of Princeton University and earned his law degree at the former Western Reserve University Law School in Cleveland.

I consider myself blessed to have known Judge Skok for many years, and I looked to him as a mentor while I served as County Prosecutor before coming to Congress. Judge Skok was a quiet, scholarly man with a tremendous wit and a voracious intellect. He was revered in legal circles and doing the right thing was second nature to him.

Judge Skok will also be remembered for his great devotion to Lake Metroparks, and maintaining the environmental beauty of Lake County. As a 30-year resident of Concord Township, few things brought more pride to the judge than preserving the sprawling park space by his home and throughout the county.

The passing of Judge Skok brought great sadness to those who knew him. On behalf of the 14th Congressional District of Ohio, I share my heartfelt condolences with his family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
PANPAPHIAN ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the Panpaphian Association of America, Inc., on the occasion of the Fourth Evagoras Pallikarides Award of Merit. An outstanding organization established in 1987, the Panpaphian Association has enriched its community through its promotion of the rich culture of Cyprus.

Founded by a small group of Cypriot Americans of Panpaphian ancestry, the Panpaphian Association of America has grown considerably in the past two decades. It has played a significant role in educating others about Cyprus and its history, traditions, and customs. The Panpaphian Association's contributions to the community include a choir and a soccer team, as well as various educational lectures on Paphian archaeological excavations and their findings. Originally a small community organization, the Panpaphian Association prospered remarkably and has developed into a pillar of the Cypriot American community.

In addition to supporting Cyprus and increasing awareness of Cypriot heritage, the association is involved in motivating and aiding its community in various ways. It promotes and stresses the importance of education through its annual academic excellence awards. Further, the association has made a major effort in fundraising for those who require medical attention, and it has made helpful donations to Paphos Hospital.